



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

AUGUST 15.

The President, Dr. RUSCHENBERGER, in the chair.

Eight members present.

---

AUGUST 22.

The President, Dr. RUSCHENBERGER, in the chair.

Nine members present.

---

AUGUST 29.

The President, Dr. RUSCHENBERGER, in the chair.

Fourteen members present.

*Notice of some Extinct Rodents.*—Prof. LEIDY remarked that Dr. J. Van A. Carter had recently sent to him some remains of rodents discovered in the tertiary deposits near Fort Bridger, Wyoming. Prof. Marsh has already indicated some remains of the same order, obtained from the same locality, which he has referred to a genus under the name of *Sciuravus*. The characters given are insufficient to determine positively whether the remains I have the opportunity of examining pertain to the same genus, though, from the greater size of the animals they indicate, they clearly belong to different species.

The remains appear to have belonged to a peculiar genus of the *Sciurine* family apparently allied to *Arctomys*.

The lower jaw is short and deep compared with that of most living rodents, apparently from a shortening of the bone in advance of the position of the molars. To compensate for this reduction in length, and give room for the incisors, they not only extend beneath all the molars, but also above them posteriorly and externally. Prof. Marsh states that in *Sciuravus* "the incisor extends below the entire molar series." The hiatus in advance of the molars presents an acute edge nearly on a level with the alveolar border, and does not form a deep notch as usual in living rodents. The masseteric fossa does not extend so far forward as usual in most living rodents, except the hares, only reaching below the position of the penultimate molar, where it is bounded by a prominent rectangular ridge, as in the Maryland marmot. The principal mental foramen is situated immediately in advance of the position of the first molar. The symphysis at its lower part apparently extended below the first part of the molar series.

The number of molars is the same as in the squirrels and marmots. They are of nearly uniform size, but are proportionately narrower than in the animals just mentioned, that is, the fore-and-aft diameter exceeds the transverse, which is usually the reverse

[November 21,

in the sciurine animals. The crown is composed of four lobes, of which the antero-internal is the largest and most prominent, the one behind it is the smallest, and the outer ones are of intermediate size, and nearly equal.

If not *Sciuravus*, the genus may be named *PARAMYS*. The specimens probably indicate three different species of the genus, mainly differing in size.

*PARAMYS DELICATUS*.—The largest species was perhaps a fourth less in size than the Maryland marmot, though its molar series is equal in length with that of the latter, measuring three-fourths of an inch. The hiatus in advance of the molars has measured about three lines and a half, or about half that in the Maryland marmot. The depth of the jaw at the first molar is  $6\frac{1}{2}$  lines, at the penultimate molar 6 lines. The incisor is  $2\frac{1}{2}$  lines fore and aft, and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  lines transversely.

The specimen upon which the species is indicated consists of the greater portion of the right ramus of the lower jaw. It presents two mental foramina, one below the first molar, besides that in the usual position. A prominent tubercle is formed at the angle of convergence of the two ridges bounding the fore part of the masseteric fossa.

*PARAMYS DELICATISSIMUS*.—The smallest species is indicated by a similar specimen to the former, and was about two-thirds the size of the largest species. The molar series is half an inch in length. The hiatus in advance of the molars measures  $2\frac{3}{4}$  lines. The depth of the jaw at the first molar is  $4\frac{1}{2}$  lines, at the penultimate molar 4 lines. The incisor is  $1\frac{1}{2}$  lines fore and aft, and 1 line transversely.

*PARAMYS DELICATOR*.—An intermediate species is apparently indicated by the greater portion of a left ramus of the lower jaw. The molar series has measured about  $7\frac{1}{4}$  lines in length. The jaw is 5 lines deep at the penultimate molar. The incisor is 2 lines fore and aft, and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  lines transversely.

A smaller rodent than the preceding, and of a different genus, is indicated by the portion of a lower jaw containing the posterior two molars, and the fangs of the two in advance.

The constitution of the jaw is similar to that in the former genus. The jaw being comparatively short and deep; the hiatus in advance of the molars short and nearly straight, and the masseteric fossa advancing only as far as the position of the penultimate molar. The molars are inserted each by two fangs; their crowns are slightly greater fore and aft, especially the first and last of the series.

The crown of the penultimate molar in its worn condition presents a pair of transverse elliptical dentinal tracts united by a narrow median fore-and-aft isthmus. In the slight recess of the inner poles of the ellipses of dentine, a small tubercle projects with a circular islet of dentine on the summit. The crown of the 1871.]

last molar exhibits five shallow tubercles with minute dentinal islets at the summits.

The size of the animal was but little greater than the domestic mouse. The molar series measures 3 lines in length. From the front of the incisor to the back of the last molar measures  $4\frac{3}{4}$  lines. The relations of this extinct rodent I have not determined, nor can I refer it to any genus with which I am familiar. It may be named *MYSOPS MINIMUS*.

On favorable report of the committee, the following paper was ordered to be published:—

[November 21,